



## Helping Hands to Bridge the Gap

Coordinated by  
ROE #3 McKinney Vento Homeless Education

### What is Helping Hands to Bridge the Gap?

- ✚ A way to provide assistance to students in need by connecting schools to outside agencies to meet these specific needs that might otherwise not be met. This is not limited to homeless students.

### How will this work?

- ✚ The ROE will provide a list of community entities that agree to be on the Helping Hands list serve. When a student need arises, a staff member completes a “Helping Hands Request Form” and submits it to the building principal. Once it is approved by the principal it is then sent to the ROE. The ROE will then put the request on the list serve for it be filled. The details of the request can be worked out between the entity filling the request and the referring individual. Emergency needs can be expedited if requested.
- ✚ We plan to pilot this program in Fayette/Bond County this year, with plans of extending it to all counties that are served in our region next year. (Schools- Vandalia, Brownstown, Ramsey, St. Elmo, Mulberry Grove, Greenville/Pocahontas/Sorento)

### Why do this?

- ✚ We have many students in need in our community and many teachers are using their own money to help meet their needs.
- ✚ We have a caring community that wants to help. This will allow our community to meet specific needs that our students have.
- ✚ This will build strong relationships between agencies and the schools in our community.

### What can we ask for?

- ✚ Anything the student needs. For example: shoes, coats, clothing, personal care needs, mattresses, blankets, food, help with water or electric bill, field trip expenses, band instruments, etc.

### When does this start?

- ✚ We hope to have everything up and running when students return from Christmas Break in January 2017.

Have additional questions? Call or email us!

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